

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: W.D. Grover et al. Attorney Docket No.: LAMA121485
Application No.: 10/620,302 Art Unit: 2617 / Confirmation No: 7562
Filed: July 14, 2003 Examiner: G. Viana Di Prisco
Title: PATH SEGMENT PROTECTING P-CYCLES

RESPONSE AFTER NON-FINAL REJECTION

Seattle, Washington 98101

September 3, 2008

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2008. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 9 and 23.

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application, of which Claims 1-8, 10-22, and 24-28 stand rejected. Having carefully reviewed the cited art as well as the comments provided in the Office Action, applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable over the cited art. The claims have not been amended.

Claims 1-3 and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ellinas, U.S. Patent No. 6,760,302. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants have again review Ellinas and find that Ellinas is completely different from the invention as claimed. Although the Examiner concedes that Ellinas is different from the invention as claimed, the differences go far beyond the difference conceded by the Examiner.

Claim 1 includes:

"the plural nodes of the pre-configured cycle being configured to protect at least one path segment, where the path segment includes at least two intersecting nodes within the pre-configured cycle and at least one intermediate node in a path that includes the two intersecting nodes and straddles the pre-configured cycle, the intermediate node not being a part

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